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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. COSTA).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PROTEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

I hereby appoint the Honorable JIM COSTA to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day. NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to not to exceed 25 minutes, and each Member, except the majority leader, the minority leader, or the minority whip, limited to not to exceed 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate extend beyond 9:50 a.m.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. LAMPSON) for 5 minutes.

RECOGNIZING THE SOCIETY OF IRANIAN-AMERICAN WOMEN FOR EDUCATION

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the great work and contribution of the Society of Iranian-American Women for Education, a scholarship fund in southeast Texas that serves the greater academic community. The Society's mission is to promote Iranian culture through educational seminars, films, lectures, and exhibitions, but their most important

goal is to provide educational support and assistance through scholarships for hardworking students. To date, more than 170 such scholarships have been awarded to students attending schools in Texas. The Society is also dedicated to strengthening relationships and deepening the understanding between Iranians and Americans, and has hosted many esteemed speakers, including Nobel Laureate Dr. Shirin Ebadi and Anousheh Ansari, who recently completed her own space flight. I salute the Society for their dedication to academics and achievement, and wish them future success in all their wonderful endeavors.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 10 a.m. today.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 6 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until 10 a.m.

□ 1000

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order at 10 a.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, in the days of Gideon, out of fear of the Midianites, Your people established fire signals on the mountains, caves for refuge and strongholds. Today, Lord, bless and strengthen all efforts to build homeland security in places around the world like Darfur, as well as here in the United States. To protect one's home or homeland seems paramount in the Hebrew, Christian and Muslim scriptures. But, Lord, You seem to ask even more of Your people.

Let Congress learn from Gideon's interaction with You, Lord.

When Gideon asks "if the Lord is with us, why has all this happened to us?" the Lord turns to him and said, "Go with the strength you have and save Israel from the power of Midian."

The Scriptures seem to ask for moral authority in a person as a prerequisite to being a leader in defense of what is good and just. Gideon is exhorted to look first to his personal strength. As he proves his own moral integrity, piety and ability, the Lord's promise is realized, "I am with you."

May this Congress and the leaders of all nations move and act with deeper faith, knowing the extent and limitations of their strength, both now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. HALL) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. HALL of New York led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOP-MENT APPROPRIATIONS BILL

(Mr. HALL of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HALL of New York. Madam Speaker, later today, we will begin

☐ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., ☐ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

